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BOURNE
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health
J. A. Galletly,

M.A., M.B., B.Chir. (Camb.) D.P.H.

AND THE

Sanitary Inspector
J. S. Fisher, C.R.S.I.

FOR THE YEAR 1937.

BOURNE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health and the Sanitary Inspector,
for the Year 1937.

To the Chairman and Members of the Bourne Urban
District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in submitting my Report and that of
your Sanitary Inspector for the year 1937.

Statistics and Social Conditions.

Area, 10,103 acres.

Population (Registrar General's Estimate) 1937, 4663.

Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1937) according to Rate
Books, 1425.

Rateable Value £22,602. Sum represented by a penny rate £87

Agriculture and works connected with it form the chief industries
of the district.

Vital Statistics.

	M	F	Total	
Live Births	Legitimate	38	32	Birth Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population
	Illegitimate	2	-	
Still Births	Legitimate	2	2	Rate per 1000 total Births (live and still Births)
	Illegitimate	-	-	
Deaths	...		65	Death rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population

Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

Puerperal Sepsis 0 Rate per 1000 total (live and still) Births 0·0

Other Puerperal Causes 0 " " " 0·0

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age -

All Infants per 1000 live births	...	...	41.66
Legitimate Infants per 1000 live births	...	...	41.60
Illegitimate Infants per 1000 Illegitimate live births			0.0
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	nil	
" " Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	nil	
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	nil	

Causes of Death.

ALL CAUSES -		M	F
1 Typhoid (and paratyphoid) fever	-
2 Measles	-
3 Scarlet fever	-
4 Whooping Cough	-
5 Diphtheria	-
6 Influenza	1 1
7 Encephalitis lethargica	-
8 Cerebro spinal fever	-
9 Tuberculosis of respiratory system	2 -
10 Other tuberculous diseases	-
11 Syphilis	-
12 General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis	-
13 Cancer, malignant disease	5 6
14 Diabetes	-
15 Cerebral haemorrhage	2 3
16 Heart disease	11 11
17 Aneurysm	-
18 Other circulatory diseases	1 2
19 Bronchitis	2 0
20 Pneumonia	-
21 Other respiratory diseases	-
22 Peptic ulcer	-
23 Diarrhoea	-
24 Appendicitis	-
25 Cirrhosis of the liver	-
26 Other diseases of the liver	-
27 Other digestive diseases	-
28 Acute and chronic nephritis	-
29 Puerperal sepsis	-

CAUSES OF DEATH—continued.

				M	F
30	Other puerperal causes	...	...	—	—
31	Congenital debility, premature birth, malformation, etc.		3	—	—
32	Senility	...	...	2	2
33	Suicide	...	...	—	—
34	Other violence	...	...	1	3
35	Other defined diseases	...	...	2	4
36	Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	—	—
Special causes (included in No 35 above)					
	Small Pox	...	...	—	—
	Poliomyelitis	...	...	—	—
	Polioencephalitis	...	...	—	—

1. PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

A. *Medical.* One part-time Medical Officer of Health, who holds the Diploma of Public Health.

Two part time Medical Officers for the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics, which are held every alternate Thursday.

(This work was taken over by one of the whole time Assistant County Medical Officers of Health in November 1937).

B. *Others.*—One whole time Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor who holds the Inspector of Nuisances and Inspector of Meat and other Foods Certificates of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

One Health Visitor. A fully trained Nurse, with C.M.B. Certificate, appointed by the Kesteven County Council and stationed at Bourne, devotes her whole time to mothers and babies and school children in the Bourne Urban District and part of South Kesteven Rural District. She also assists at the School Clinic and Child Welfare Centre in Bourne.

2. NURSING IN THE HOME. (a) Two Queen's Nurses with C.M.B visit the sick in Bourne Urban District and part of the South Kesteven Rural District. They act either as Midwives or Maternity Nurses.

(b) There is no Nurse for attending cases of Infectious Disease. Most of these cases are sent to the South Kesteven R.D.C. Isolation Hospital.

(c) The Bourne Charity Trustees provide a Nurse to look after their sick pensioners.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES. An ambulance, of moderate comfort, is provided for non-infectious diseases.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water. The water supply of Bourne is excellent, being derived chiefly from a bore 13 inches in diameter and 174 feet deep.

In addition to this Public Supply, there are a good many private bores, some of them not sealed. It is a pity that there is no means of preventing water thus running to waste.

Bourne water is very hard. This renders it most palatable, but lessens its suitability for domestic use.

Drainage and Sewerage. The new sewer still awaits the drainage of Field No. 436. Meanwhile it has amply proved its value, and no flooding occurred during 1937.

Rivers and Streams. The Bourne Eau continues to be polluted, the chief pollution coming from an old established business.

Closet Accommodation. There are still too many privies and pail closets, but they are gradually giving way to water closets.

Public Cleansing. (a) Dry house refuse is collected once a week by the Council's covered collecting cart and removed to a suitable place.

(b) The contents of earth closets and privies are removed by the householders and dug into their gardens or allotments, for which purpose they can have the Council's sludge cart free of cost.

(c) Cesspools are usually emptied by pumping into the Council's sludge cart, and then conveyed and dug into some suitable land. Unless properly attended to, cesspools become a great nuisance.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area. See Sanitary Inspector's Report.

Smoke Abatement. A smoke nuisance occurring at the end of the year at a Laundry has since been remedied.

Special Classes of Premises and Occupations subject to Control of Local Authority. No need in Bourne for any action.

Rag Flock Acts, 1911 and 1928. No premises in Bourne deal in Rag Flock.

Schools. The Public Elementary Schools in Bourne, Dyke and Twenty are in good condition, and the bad condition of the lavatory accommodation at Twenty has been remedied.

Housing, 1937.

The New Council Slum-Clearance Housing Estate, involving the creation of a new road, Harrington Street, was formally opened by Sir Edward Campbell, M.P., Parliamentary Private Secretary to the Minister of Health, on 30th October.

It reflects great credit on your Sanitary Inspector who was the Architect.

44 semi-detached houses, with ample gardens, and 10 bungalows for old people, have been erected on the best site in the town.

<i>Number of New Houses built by the Council during 1937</i>	<i>44</i>
" " " <i>Private Enterprise</i>	<i>13</i>

1. Inspections of Dwelling-houses during the year.

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health and/or Housing Acts	... ...	... 42
(b) Number of Inspections made for that purpose	104	
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations of 1925	... ...	... 9
(b) Number of inspections made for that purpose	17	
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	... ...	... 6
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	... ...	... 11

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of Informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	7
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3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

(A) Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—			
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	... ...	2	
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of Formal Notices			
(a) By owners	... ...	nil	
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	... ...	nil	

(B) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	2
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notices	
(a)	By Owners nil	
(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners ... nil	

(C) Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	... ... 1.
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	... ... 28

(D) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	nil
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	... ... ... nil

(E) Undertakings given and accepted under Section 11 (3) of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which undertakings to render fit for human habitation were given	... ... ... 3
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses rendered fit in pursuance of such undertakings	... ... 3
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which undertakings not to use for human habitation were given	... ... ... 2
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses converted to other use in pursuance of such undertakings	... 2

4. Housing Act, 1936. Part IV. Overcrowding.

(a) (i) Number of dwelling-houses overcrowded at the end of the year	...	...	...	1
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	...	...	...	1
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	...	...	...	9
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	...	1
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	...	4
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	...	...	30
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	...	...	...	nil
(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	...	...	...	nil

SECTION E.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

(A) *Milk Supply.* During the past year all the Cowsheds and Dairies have been thoroughly inspected, and the result of these inspections is given in your Inspector's Report.

A pure milk supply is of the utmost importance for everyone. Very few drink the necessary quantity of milk per day.

Cowsheds are often structurally bad, and often show lack of cleanliness. Cleanliness of the cows and their milkers is even more essential than the cleanliness of the premises.

I am pleased to report that the children of the Bourne Council School can now avail themselves of a safe milk ration each day of attendance.

(B) *Meat and Other Foods.* The Slaughterhouses and Butchers' premises show an improvement.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows NOT KNOWN	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	...				
Number inspected	... 20	8	2	38	43
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis</i>					
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	3	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	4	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	... —	—	—	18·4	2·3
<i>Tuberculosis only</i>					
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	... —	—	—	—	—

(C) *Adulteration, etc.* Action under the various Acts is taken by the Kesteven County Council.

(D) *Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.* Action taken by the County Council.

(E) *Nutrition.* Instruction on the proper feeding of Infants and Young Children is given to mothers at the Infants Welfare Centre.

(F) *Shell Fish.* No shell fish beds or layings are in the district.

SECTION F.

Prevalence and Control over Infectious and Other Diseases.

The Bourne Urban District has been very free from Infectious Diseases during 1937.

Pneumonia ...	...	1 case was notified.
Puerperal Fever	...	1 case was notified.
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	1 case was notified.
Erysipelas ...	...	1 case was notified.
Scarlet Fever	...	4 cases were notified.

None of the other notifiable diseases occurred.

An extensive epidemic of Measles and Influenza occurred in the first quarter, and of Chicken Pox during the latter half of the year.

The school authorities are most helpful in co-operating in combating Infectious Disease.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1937.

Diseases		Total Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Small Pox	...	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	4	4
Diphtheria	...	—	—	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)		—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—
Pneumonia	1	—
Other Diseases generally notifiable—				
Erysipelas	1	—
Other diseases notifiable locally	...	—	—	—

Analysis of notified cases under Age Groups :—

Diseases	Under	Age Groups												Total
		1	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65 and upwards	
Small Pox	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Pneumonia	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Other diseases generally notifiable (specify disease)														
Erysipelas	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Other diseases notifiable locally (specify disease)	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Cancer.

Deaths—11, Males 5, Females 6.

Organs affected—Colon, Stomach, Uterus, Liver, Cervix Uteri, Breast.

Prevention of Blindness.

No action has been taken under Section 66 of the Public Health Act, 1925, or under Section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936, for the prevention of blindness or for treatment of persons suffering from any disease or injury to the eyes.

Tuberculosis.

No action has been taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925 (relating to persons suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis employed in the milk trade), or under Section 62 of the Public Health Act, 1925, or Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, relating to the compulsory removal to Hospital of persons suffering from Tuberculosis).

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1937.

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS				Non-Respiratory M F	
	Respiratory M F		Non-Respiratory M F		Respiratory M F		Respiratory M F			
0--1	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-15	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-25	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25-35	...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
35-45	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45-55	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55-65	...	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Notifications of Tuberculosis in 1937 have been fairly prompt, and all deaths from Tuberculosis have been notified.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

Bourne.

J. A. GALLETY.

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector's Office,
North Street,
Bourne,
25th April, 1938.

J. A. GALLETTY, Esq., M.A., M.B., B.Chir. (Camb.), D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health,
Bourne Urban District.

Sir,

ANNUAL REPORT, 1937.

I have the honour to present my Eighth Annual Report on the Public Health work carried out by me in the Bourne Urban District, this being for the year 1937.

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

No material alteration has been made during the year in this connection, although the question has been, and still is under consideration. A two-wheel horse drawn covered cart is used for collection, and the refuse is tipped in the old brick pits off West Road. A weekly collection is made in the Town area, and a fortnightly collection at Dyke and certain of the houses on the outskirts of the Town. The amount of refuse to be collected is rather more than can be adequately and efficiently dealt with by the one cart, so much time being lost—unavoidably with a slow moving vehicle—in going to and from the Tip. On the other hand, the Council is not satisfied that there is sufficient to justify the purchase of a motor refuse collecting vehicle, and the whole question of scavenging, both house refuse and street, is being further investigated. In the meantime, the fortnightly collection at Dyke is being made by lorry, leaving the horse-drawn cart free for the Town collection, which arrangement is satisfactory for the time being.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

The system has worked reasonably well, and no special works have had to be undertaken. The sewer on the West side of North Road became choked, and it was found to be caused by an extremely bad drain connection from No 15. This was remedied and a manhole constructed. The sewer in Church Walk was repaired.

A length of 140-ft. of 9-inch sewer was laid from the new Harrington Street to the Southern boundary of Field No 436, and a manhole constructed.

The Weir Dyke from the Sewage Disposal Works to Tongue End was roded and cleaned out, and the dike surrounding the Disposal Works was similarly dealt with. To meet the wishes of the Black

Sluice Internal Drainage Board and an occupier of land adjoining the Disposal Works, the position of two screens in the dike was altered, it being alleged that the existing screens were the cause of flooding. Actually the allegations were unfounded, the cause of the trouble being the absence of sub-soil drainage in the field. The new positions are rather more conveniently situated for control purposes, and are equally as effective as the old.

Closest Accommodation.

One Privy has been demolished and replaced by a Water Closet with flushing apparatus; and 4 additional Water Closets, 1 Chemical Closet, and 1 Urinal have been constructed at existing premises.

Inspection of Factories, Workshops, and Workplaces.

Factories (including Factory Laundries)	...	...	2
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	8

Defects found in Factories, Workshops, and Workplaces.

Choked Drain	1
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Slaughterhouses.

Inspections have been made at irregular intervals and generally the premises have been found clean. The situation and structural condition of some leave much to be desired, but the occupiers keep them clean and in as good a condition as they are able. One slaughterhouse changed hands during the year. No formal action has been necessary, but three slaughterhouses have been cleaned and one repaired as a result of informal action.

Meat and Food.

The carcases and organs of 26 sheep, 2 lambs and 23 pigs were inspected on request, in addition to those inspected during routine inspections.

The following has been condemned :--

Carcase and organs of 1 sheep (Dystokia)	
„ „ „	1 sheep (Run over)
„ „ „	1 lamb (Emaciated)
Lungs of 4 sheep	(Strongylus rufescens)
„ 1 pig	(Erysipelas)
Tripe 21 lbs	(Unsound)

Cowsheds and Dairies.

These have been inspected at irregular intervals, and although no formal action has been taken, the general condition of most of them leaves a tremendous lot to be desired. In many instances it does not seem to be appreciated that scrupulous cleanliness is essential in every process of milk production, and in everything connected therewith, and until the public demand a safe and clean milk, the efforts of Sanitary Officers to ensure it will, to a large extent, be nullified.

One additional Dairy, and Producer and Retailer, have been registered.

Disinfection.

Four disinfections have been carried out during the year.

Housing.

Thirteen new houses were completed by private enterprise, and 44 houses by the Council, during the year.

One house (No. 38, North Street) was condemned and demolished ; 27 others were demolished ; an undertaking was accepted in respect to 2 houses (Nos. 17 and 19, Hereward Street) to improve lighting and ventilation ; and an undertaking under Section 11(3) of the Housing Act, 1936, accepted in respect to 2 others (No. 27 and 29, North Street) to convert them into store houses. One other (No. 24, Dyke) was converted into a store house, pursuant to an undertaking given in 1936.

The Slum Clearance Programme was completed during the year, and the Estate was formally opened on 30th October by Sir Edward Campbell, M.P., Parliamentary Private Secretary to the Minister of Health, (representing Sir Kingsley Wood, M.P., Minister of Health). He was supported by Lord Willoughby de Eresby, M.P. (Member for the Division), and representatives of the County Council and adjoining Authorities. The interest of the Minister in the Council's housing activities is much appreciated.

A number of condemned houses have yet to be demolished, and notice has been given that the work will be done by the Council if the Owners continue to default.

With regard to Field No. 436 (between Harrington Street and Mill Drove), reference to which has been made in each of my Annual Reports since, 1933, no further developments have taken place excepting that Harrington Street Housing Site has been laid out in a manner to allow of the correct development of this part of the Town, and a road—some 130-ft in length—has been made and the sewer put in from Harrington Street to the Southern boundary of the field, which clearly indicates the Council's desire. The good development of this Field is of considerable

importance to the Town, and I still feel that the Council should have been allowed to purchase and develop it Events in the present year may bear out my contentions.

Legislation.

Amongst the Legislation particularly affecting the work of the Public Health Department coming into operation during the year is the following : -

Housing Act, 1936, coming into operation on 1st January, 1937.

It does not include any new legislative requirements, but consolidates the Housing Acts, 1925 to 1935, and certain other enactments relating to Housing.

Public Health Act, 1936, coming into operation on 1st October, 1937. This Act consolidates with amendments most of the principal statutes relating to public health, bringing into one volume the law contained in some sixty existing Acts It is by far the most important Public Health Legislation for 60 years.

General.

The following is a detailed list of work which has been carried out as a result, in the main, of Informal action :—

DRAINAGE.

Choked drains cleared	...	..	...	5
Drains relaid	...	..	..
"D" trap gullies replaced with stoneware syphon gullies	...	..	..	1
Additional stoneware syphon gullies fixed	...	..	..	2
Baths installed in existing houses	...	..	..	2
Lavatory basins,,	..	..	..	2
Sinks	..	..	..	1
Inspection chambers constructed	..	..	..	3
I.C. covers greased in	..	..	..	1
Interceptors fixed	..	..	..	1
Ventilating pipes fixed	..	..	..	1
Rain water guttering repaired	..	..	..	1
Nuisance from Cesspool emptying abated	..	..	..	1

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Additional W.C.'s. to existing premises	...	..	4
W.C. with flushing apparatus to replace privy	...	..	1
Privy demolished and pit filled in	..	..	1
Chemical Closets provided	..	..	1
Urinal constructed	..	..	1
W.C. pans cleaned	..	..	3
Nuisance from Privy pit emptying abated	..	..	1
" " " Closet pail "	..	..	1

MISCELLANEOUS.

Accumulations removed ...	..	..	4
Dirty houses cleansed ..	..	..	6
Overcrowding abated ...	..	..	4
Roofs made sound and watertight ...	..	..	2
Wall and Ceiling plaster repaired ...	..	..	1
Floors repaired ...	..	..	2
Windows renewed or repaired ...	..	..	10
Doors "	..	..	5
Bedroom ventilators unstopped ...	..	..	1
Ranges repaired ..	..	..	1
Yards paved ...	..	..	1
Copper installed ...	..	..	1
Water service pipe repaired ..	..	..	1
External Walls repainted...	..	..	1
House colourwashed and repainted ..	..	..	1
Nuisance from keeping animals abated ...	..	..	4
Dangerous buildings removed or made safe ..	..	..	4
Site cleared of moveable dwellings ..	..	..	1
Slaughterhouse walls repaired ..	..	..	1
,, floor ,,	..	..	1
,, roof ,,	..	..	1
,, door ,,	..	..	1
,, blood-pit constructed ...	..	..	1
,, cleansed ..	..	..	3
Cowsheds cleansed ..	..	..	1

Notices served.

13 Statutory Notices and 69 Informal Notices have been served.

Complaints.

18 Complaints have been received and dealt with.

Inspections.

The number of inspections, etc., including re-inspections, may be summarised as follows : -

Houses disinfected ..	..	..	..	4
Complaints received and dealt with...	..	..	..	18
Slaughterhouse inspections ..	..	..	..	12
Factories, Workshops, Bakehouses, etc.	..	..	..	10
Cowsheds and Dairies ...	..	..	..	34
Housing defects ..	..	..	..	104
Miscellaneous ...	..	..	..	74

Council Houses.

Numerous inspections have been made, and minor repairs carried out. These are not included in the above summaries.

Conclusion.

The most important event of the year from the Public Health point of view was the completion of the Housing Scheme. Not only has the Town a new street of modern houses, but it will shortly be rid of a number of old and insanitary houses, and this will result in some instances in other houses receiving more light and air--a "commodity" which in an area such as this should be abundantly available for all. In large areas, there are undoubtedly disadvantages in transferring people long distances from their work and old haunts, resulting often in additional cost to the persons re-housed by reason of travelling expenses to and from their work, increased rents, and other expenses. These objections do not apply in an area such as this, and the re-housing of people from insanitary houses must inevitably re-act to their well-being and to the well-being of the Town at large. It is gratifying to notice that the majority of the tenants have taken advantage of their more congenial surroundings.

The Housing activities have necessarily interfered to some extent with the routine work, but not seriously.

I again express sincere thanks to you, Sir, and to the Council and Officers, for assistance and co-operation during the year.

I am, Sir,

Yours obediently,

J. S. FISHER,

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.

